

**Office of Brownfield Remediation and Development
Remedial Action and Redevelopment Municipal Grant Program
Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)**

February 25, 2022

Round 15 – Assessment-only Grant Program

The Office of Brownfield Remediation and Development (OBRD) of the Dept. of Economic and Community Development (DECD) would like to announce the availability of \$2 million under the Municipal Brownfield Grant Program (Assessment-Only) and would like to invite applications for the same. The purpose of the Municipal Grant Program as per [C.G.S Section 32-763](#), is to provide grants for brownfield remediation and redevelopment. Additional goals for DECD include encouraging public-private partnerships, leveraging the maximum amount of private funds to increase the economic impact of the State’s investment, reactivating long-stalled sites and encouraging job creation.

It may be noted that this round offering does not include requests for Remediation funds/projects.

There is a separate offering under the Brownfield Area-wide Revitalization (BAR) Planning Grant Program. Please refer to the BAR Round 3 - Request for Applications (RFA) for details.

“Brownfield” Definition: As per [C.G.S Section 32-760](#), “Brownfield” means any abandoned or underutilized site where redevelopment, reuse or expansion has not occurred due to the presence or potential presence of pollution in the buildings, soil or groundwater that requires investigation or remediation before or in conjunction with the redevelopment, reuse or expansion of the property.

Maximum and Minimum Requests Per Application or Project:

- *For any project:* Maximum and minimum amount that can be requested is \$200,000 and \$100,000, respectively.
- *For Applicants who are Councils of Governments (COGs) and Brownfield Land Banks (BLBs) only:* Total grant requests of up to \$500,000 may be submitted per application and for multiple projects in one municipality or multiple municipalities. However, the maximum and minimum amounts thresholds per project will be as noted above. Please complete and submit the COG/BLB coversheet along with your project applications if you are submitting for multiple projects.

All applicants are welcome to submit multiple projects under separate applications. Municipalities can also submit for multiple unrelated sites under one application as long as the total request for the project is within the specified thresholds (minimum of \$100K and maximum of \$200K).

Application Process: The application form has two separate sections – Part A: Threshold Eligibility Section and Part B: Project Details. An Applicant or Application may be denied funding after review of Part A of the Application Form.

COGs/BLBs: If applying for multiple projects please complete and submit the COG/Land Bank cover sheet. Please make sure to submit a separate application form for each proposed project.

The Application Form and other material can be accessed on the OBRD website (www.ctbrownfields.gov) – [Municipal Brownfield Grant Program Page](#). All applications shall be sent to Brownfields@ct.gov. Please also refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document for more details.



Application Due Date: The Application Form will be accepted until 3 p.m. on Friday, April 22, 2022. An email receipt will be sent back to confirm receipt of the form.

Questions related to the NOFA that are not included in the FAQ document should be emailed to Brownfields@ct.gov by Wednesday, March 23, 2022. The FAQ addendum that includes responses to all questions will be posted on the OBRD website by Monday, March 28, 2021.

All Applicants for funding under this program should tentatively expect to receive clarification questions via email. Awards are tentatively scheduled to be announced in May/June 2022.

Eligible Applicants: A Municipality as defined by [C.G.S Section 32-760](#) (12); Economic Development Agency, as defined by [C.G.S Section 32-760 \(6\)](#); and Connecticut Brownfield Land Banks, as defined by [C.G.S Section 32-760 \(22\)](#). Entities responsible for the contamination are ineligible. All applicants must provide proof of access to the site, site control or path to site control.

Source of Funding: December 21, 2021 State Bond Commission approval (Item# 9)

Enabling Statutes: [C.G.S. Section 32-763](#)

Eligible Uses of Funds: Costs associated with the investigation, assessment, and limited demolition required to conduct assessment activities.

Threshold Requirements: Applicants will need to demonstrate the following in the pre-application stage to be eligible to apply for the program:

- Proof that the site is a brownfield as per [C.G. S. Sec. 32-760](#)
- Proof that the Applicant and potential development partners have no direct or related liability for the conditions of the brownfield.
- Proof that Applicant has access or will have access to the property, site control or path to site control

Award Criteria for Assessment-only Projects: The following criteria will be used to score the applications for assessment-only funds.

Clarity on Assessment Needs	Knowledge of contamination history	Up to 6 points
	Preliminary investigations	2 points
	Project need and description	Up to 8 points
	Budget feasibility/Cost-efficiency	Up to 4 points
Economic and Community Development Impact	Project is located in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A distressed municipality, as defined in C.G.S. Section 32-9p; 	15 points

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A targeted investment community, as defined in C.G.S. Section 32-222; or • A public investment community, as defined in C.G.S. Section 7-545. 	
	Project in Opportunity Zone	10 points
	Property location benefits/merits	Up to 25 points
Non-DECD Support	Developer interest and non-DECD support	Up to 10 points
	Non-DECD funds committed	Up to 5 points
	Market demand/Studies for site	Up to 5 points
Applicant Experience	Applicant experience with completing similar projects on-time and within budget	Up to 10 points

Campaign Contribution Restriction Notice: This is a notice in case you are successful in receiving a grant award. For all State contracts, defined in section 9-612 of the Connecticut General Statutes as having a value in a calendar year of \$50,000 or more, or a combination or series of such agreements or contracts having a value of \$100,000 or more, the authorized signatory to any Agreement with DECD represents that they have received the State Elections Enforcement Commission’s notice advising state contractors of state campaign contribution and solicitation prohibitions, and will inform its principals of the contents of the notice.

Application Page limit (excluding attachments): DECD encourages all applicants to be as succinct as possible with their responses to the questions in the application forms. DECD will only accept responses to the questions included in the space provided within the forms. Material presented outside of the forms may not be reviewed. Incomplete applications will be rejected. Please make sure to check and submit the requested attachments and number/label as per instructions.

Schedule Summary:

Friday, February 25, 2022	Posting of this NOFA
Wednesday, March 23, 2022	Deadline for questions to DECD on this NOFA
Monday, March 28, 2022	Posting of FAQ Addendum (if any) on OBRD’s Website
Friday April 22, 2022 @ 3:00 PM	Deadline to submit Application Form
May-June 2022	Award Announcements (tentative)



For questions: Please send email to brownfields@ct.gov (preferred) or contact the dedicated OBRD hotline number at 860.500.2395.

***Disclaimer:** DECD reserves the right to amend or cancel this NOFA, to modify or waive any requirement, condition or other term set forth in this NOFA or the program application, to request additional information at any time from one or more applicants, to select any number of applications submitted in response to this NOFA, or to reject any or all such applications, in each case at DECD's sole discretion. DECD may exercise the foregoing rights at any time without notice and without liability to any applicant or any other party. Applications to this NOFA shall be prepared at the sole expense of the applicant and shall not obligate DECD to procure any of the services described therein or herein from any applicant. DECD shall not be obligated to any applicant until a final written agreement has been executed by all necessary parties thereto and all applicable approvals have been obtained. As such, any funds expended by the applicant prior to these approvals will be done so entirely at the risk of the applicant.*